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ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)

U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS

Margaret P. Grafeld, Director

() Release (☒) Excise () Deny

Exemption(s): E-6

Declassify: () In Part () In Full

() Classify as () Extend as () Downgrade to

Date Declassify on Reason

August 11, 1980

Mr. Hamilton Jordan
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500

076781

Dear Mr. Jordan:

With shock and sadness I have learned of massive violations of human rights in Argentina.

Enclosed are several Jewish Herald Voice articles about Argentine abuse of human freedom. They are documented by the Anti-Defamation League's Argentine Prisoner Project Committee. Specific cases cited are of those as follows:

- (1) Nineteen year old Debora Benshom, whose brother was killed when she was abducted;
- (2) Isaac Rudnik, a law student who, when arrested, happened to be in the area of a terrorist attack, and who is now in failing health and confined to the 13th floor of a federal prison building;
- (3) Liliana Irma Ross, pregnant when arrested, and reported to have given birth to twins who were taken from her in prison; and
- (4) Haydee Blanca Altmann, a young stewardess of Uruguay, and also pregnant when abducted and then reported missing.

It is felt that public concern can help these innocent people, as it did in the release of Jacobo Timerman, an Argentine journalist, who was confined for two and a half years.

Since the 1976 overthrow of the government of Isabel Peron thousands of people have become political prisoners or have "disappeared." The government has admitted to holding prisoners in various jails without having charged them with a specific crime. Letters smuggled from prisons describe heinous torture procedures.

Please do everything possible to help free these human destinies so arbitrarily, unjustly, and painfully bound.

Sincerely yours,

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